

IN THE CLAIMS

The current claims follow. For claims not marked as amended in this response, any difference in the claims below and the previous state of the claims is unintentional and in the nature of a typographical error.

1. (Cancelled).

2. (Previously Presented) The partitioned selection and distribution unit set forth in Claim 7 wherein said radio link protocol functions comprise selection of preferred ones of incoming wireless traffic frames received from said first base station.

3. (Previously Presented) The partitioned selection and distribution unit set forth in Claim 7 wherein said radio link protocol functions comprise controlling a transmission power of a selected one of said plurality of mobile stations.

4. (Previously Presented) The partitioned selection and distribution unit set forth in Claim 7 wherein said physical layer protocol functions comprise a decompression of voice traffic from a first bit rate to a second bit rate.

5. (Original) The partitioned selection and distribution unit set forth in Claim 4 wherein

said decompression is performed by a vocoder.

6. (Previously Presented) The partitioned selection and distribution unit set forth in Claim 7 wherein said physical layer protocol functions comprise a transcoding of circuit data from a first bit rate to a second bit rate.

7. (Previously Presented) For use in a CDMA wireless network comprising a plurality of base stations capable of communicating with a plurality of mobile stations located in a coverage area of said CDMA wireless network, a partitioned selection and distribution unit (SDU) comprising:

a first controller associated with a first one of said plurality of base stations capable of performing radio link protocol functions related to wireless communication links between said first base station and at least one of said plurality of mobile stations; and

a second controller associated with a mobile switching center (MSC) of said CDMA wireless network capable of performing physical layer protocol functions related to transmission of wireline data comprising at least one of voice traffic and data traffic between said CDMA wireless network and a wired network coupled to said CDMA wireless network, wherein said physical layer protocol functions comprise a conversion of data frames received from said first base station to data packets suitable for transmission over a packet data network coupled to said CDMA wireless network.

8. (Previously Presented) The partitioned selection and distribution unit set forth in

Claim 7 wherein said first controller is disposed in said first base station and said second controller is disposed in said mobile switching center (MSC).

9. (Cancelled).

10. (Previously Presented) The CDMA-based wireless network set forth in Claim 16 wherein said radio link protocol functions comprise selection of preferred ones of incoming wireless traffic frames received from said first base station.

11. (Previously Presented) The CDMA-based wireless network set forth in Claim 16 wherein said radio link protocol functions comprise controlling a transmission power of a selected one of said plurality of mobile stations.

12. (Previously Presented) The CDMA-based wireless network set forth in Claim 16 wherein said physical layer protocol functions comprise a decompression of voice traffic from a first bit rate to a second bit rate.

13. (Original) The CDMA-based wireless network set forth in Claim 12 wherein said decompression is performed by a vocoder.

14. (Previously Presented) The CDMA-based wireless network set forth in Claim 16 wherein said physical layer protocol functions comprise a transcoding of circuit data from a first bit rate to a second bit rate.

15. (Previously Presented) A CDMA wireless network capable of communicating with a plurality of mobile stations located in a coverage area of said CDMA wireless network, said CDMA wireless network comprising;

a plurality of base stations capable of wirelessly communicating with said plurality of mobile stations, a first one of said plurality of base stations comprising a first controller capable of performing radio link protocol functions related to wireless communication links between said first base station and said plurality of mobile stations; and

a mobile switching center capable of transferring call traffic between said plurality of base stations and a wired network coupled to said CDMA wireless network, said mobile switching center comprising a second controller capable of performing physical layer protocol functions related to transmission of wireline data comprising at least one of voice traffic and data traffic between said CDMA wireless network and said wired network. wherein said physical layer protocol functions comprise a conversion of data frames received from said first base station to data packets suitable for transmission over a packet data network coupled to said CDMA wireless network.

16. (Cancelled).

17. (Cancelled).

18. (Previously Presented) The method set forth in Claim 20 wherein the radio link protocol functions comprise at least one of selection of preferred ones of incoming wireless traffic frames received from the first base station and controlling a transmission power of a selected one of the plurality of mobile stations.

19. (Previously Presented) The method set forth in Claim 20 wherein the physical layer protocol functions comprise at least one of decompressing voice traffic from a first bit rate to a second bit rate and transcoding circuit data from a first bit rate to a second bit rate.

20. (Previously Presented) A method of operating a CDMA wireless network comprising a plurality of base stations capable of communicating with a plurality of mobile stations located in a coverage area of the CDMA wireless network, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving in a first base station at least one of voice traffic and data traffic transmitted by a selected one of the plurality of mobile stations;

performing in the first base station radio link protocol functions related to wireless communication links between the first base station and the selected mobile station; and

performing physical layer protocol functions in a mobile switching station of the CDMA

wireless network, wherein the physical layer protocol functions are related to transmission of wireline data comprising at least one of voice traffic and data traffic between the CDMA wireless network and a wired network coupled to the CDMA wireless network, wherein the physical layer protocol functions comprise a conversion of data frames received from the first base station to data packets suitable for transmission over a packet data network coupled to the CDMA wireless network station.

21. (Previously Presented) The method set forth in Claim 20 wherein the step of decompressing voice traffic from a first bit rate to a second bit rate is performed by a vocoder.

22-35. (Cancelled).